



Phase II and Phase III Archeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BA526

Site Name: AVW/ Area 2/Site 3

Prehistoric ☐

Other name(s)

Historic ☒

Unknown ☐

Brief Description:

Late 19th century artifact concentration

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.3666 Longitude -76.3987

Elevation m Site slope 0-6%

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

Maryland Archeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site ☒

Underwater site ☐

Ethnobotany profile available ☐ Maritime site ☐

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Windlass Run

Saltwater

Ocean ☐

Estuary/tidal river ☐

Tidewater/marsh ☐

Spring ☐

Minimum distance to water is 183 m

Freshwater

Stream/river ☒

Swamp ☐

Lake or pond ☐

Spring ☐

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site ☐

Woodland site ☐

Archaic site ☐

MD Adena ☐

Early archaic ☐

Early woodland ☐

Middle archaic ☐

Mid. woodland ☐

Late archaic ☐

Late woodland ☐

Unknown prehistoric context ☐

Contact period site ☐

ca. 1820 - 1860 ☐

ca. 1630 - 1675 ☐

ca. 1860 - 1900 ☐

ca. 1675 - 1720 ☐

ca. 1900 - 1930 ☐

ca. 1720 - 1780 ☐

Post 1930 ☐

ca. 1780 - 1820 ☐

Unknown historic context ☐

Unknown context ☐

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American ☐

Asian American ☐

African American ☐

Unknown ☐

Anglo-American ☐

Other ☐

Hispanic ☐

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Historic

Urban/Rural? Rural ☐

Domestic

Homestead ☒

Farmstead ☐

Mansion ☐

Plantation ☐

Row/townhome ☐

Cellar ☐

Privy ☐

Industrial

Mining-related ☐

Quarry-related ☐

Mill ☐

Black/metalsmith ☐

Furnace/forge ☐

Other ☐

Transportation

Canal-related ☐

Road/railroad ☐

Wharf/landing ☐

Maritime-related ☐

Bridge ☐

Ford ☐

Educational

Commercial

Trading post ☐

Store ☐

Tavern/inn ☐

Military

Battlefield ☐

Fortification ☐

Encampment ☐

Townsite

Religious

Church/mtg house ☐

Ch support bldg ☐

Burial area

Cemetery ☐

Sepulchre ☐

Isolated burial ☐

Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure ☐

Post-in-ground ☐

Frame-built ☐

Masonry ☐

Other structure ☐

Slave related

Non-domestic agri

Recreational

Midden/dump

Artifact scatter ☒

Spring or well ☐

Unknown ☐

Other context ☐

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken ☐

Flotation samples taken ☐

Other samples taken ☐

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken ☐

Flotation samples taken ☐

Other samples taken ☐



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types	
Clovis	<input type="text"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text"/>
Palmer	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text"/>
Le Croy	<input type="text"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text"/>
Guilford	<input type="text"/>
Brewerton	<input type="text"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="text"/>
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text"/>
Perkiomen	<input type="text"/>
Susquehanna	<input type="text"/>
Vernon	<input type="text"/>
Piscataway	<input type="text"/>
Calvert	<input type="text"/>
Selby Bay	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text"/>
Madison/Potomac	<input type="text"/>
Levanna	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text"/>	Shepard	<input type="text"/>	Keyser	<input type="text"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text"/>	Townsend	<input type="text"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="text"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text"/>	Watson	<input type="text"/>	Minguanan	<input type="text"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text"/>	Mockley	<input type="text"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text"/>	Page	<input type="text"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text"/>		
				Potomac Cr	<input type="text"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware	
Astbury	<input type="text"/>
Borderware	<input type="text"/>
Buckley	<input type="text"/>
Creamware	<input type="text"/>
Ironstone	<input type="text"/>
Jackfield	<input type="text"/>
Mn Mottled	<input type="text"/>
North Devon	<input type="text"/>
Pearlware	<input type="text"/>
Staffordshire	<input type="text"/>
Tin Glazed	<input type="text"/>
Whiteware	<input type="text"/>
Porcelain	<input type="text"/>
Stoneware	
English Brown	<input type="text"/>
Eng Dry-bodie	<input type="text"/>
Nottingham	<input type="text"/>
Rhenish	<input type="text"/>
Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts	
Flaked stone	<input type="text"/>
Ground stone	<input type="text"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="text"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="text"/>
Other fired clay	<input type="text"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Modified faunal	<input type="text"/>
Unmod faunal	<input type="text"/>
Oyster shell	<input type="text"/>
Floral material	<input type="text"/>
Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input type="text"/>
Midden	<input type="text"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="text"/>
Shell midden	<input type="text"/>	Ossuary	<input type="text"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Hearth(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="text"/>		

Lithic Material

Jasper	<input type="text"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="text"/>	European flint	<input type="text"/>
Chert	<input type="text"/>	Ironstone	<input type="text"/>	Basalt	<input type="text"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="text"/>	Argilite	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
Quartz	<input type="text"/>	Steatite	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
Quartzite	<input type="text"/>	Sandstone	<input type="text"/>		

☐ Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts	
Pottery (all)	<input type="text"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="text"/>
Architectural	<input type="text"/>
Furniture	<input type="text"/>
Arms	<input type="text"/>
Clothing	<input type="text"/>
Personal items	<input type="text"/>
Tobacco related	<input type="text"/>
Activity item(s)	<input type="text"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Faunal material	<input type="text"/>
Misc. kitchen	<input type="text"/>
Floral material	<input type="text"/>
Misc.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Historic Features

Const feature	<input type="text"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="text"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
Foundation	<input type="text"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="text"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="text"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="text"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="text"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input type="text"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="text"/>	Earthworks	<input type="text"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="text"/>	Planting feature	<input type="text"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="text"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="text"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="text"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="text"/>		

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 2:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 3:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability
Sample 4:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 5:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 6:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability
Sample 7:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 8:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 9:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability

☐ Additional radiocarbon results available



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Prehistoric ☐

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Historic ☒

Brief Description:

Late 19th century artifact concentration

Unknown ☐

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

☐ Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18BA526, also known as AVW/Area 2/Site 3, is a late 19th century artifact concentration located near the Middle River area of Baltimore County. The site is situated on a terrace just east of Windlass Run. At least two unnamed tributaries of Saltpeter Creek are to the east of the site. The site is surrounded by upland flat terrain. At the time of the site's discovery in 2005, it was composed of overgrown agricultural fields. The dominant vegetative setting of surrounding landscape contains several hardwood and coniferous species, including red oak and other oak varieties, yellow poplar, sycamore, red maple, sweetgum, black cherry, beech, sassafras, Virginia pine, loblolly, American holly, and cedar. Soils at the site are primarily poorly drained Issue silt loams.

The site area is likely affiliated with William J. Vanness (or Vannass). The first record of Vanness is an 1857 Map of Baltimore City and County, where a property and house are indicated in this area south of a local road. Three years later, the 1860 US Census has a single record for a William J. Vanness in Maryland. The Vanness the census describes was a merchant who lived in the 14th Ward of Baltimore City. According to this information, William J. Vanness was likely an absentee owner who employed a caretaker to live on and operate his property in Middle River.

In April of 1866, William J. Vanness sold his property in Middle River to a Mary Howell. In the 1870 United States Census, Mary Howell (62) is indicated as living in Middle River with her husband, David Howell (41). The couple are described as being immigrant farmers from Wales. An 1877 Atlas of Baltimore County indicates that David Howell owned a house in the approximate location that William J. Vanness' is depicted in two decades earlier. In 1883, the house owned by Mary and David Howell was willed to their son Henry, who likely remained at the estate until his death in 1915. According to documentary evidence, Henry Howell appears to be the last resident of the parcel containing the site.

The site was first identified in 2005 during the course of a Phase I archeological survey of the site and surrounding areas. The work was carried out on a 1,000 acre property (which included the site) slated for development of a new business campus. Construction of the business campus was contingent upon receipt of a wetlands permit through the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Maryland Department of the Environment. Thus, the survey was required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended).

The site was identified based on the presence of 50 historic artifacts found in 17 shovel test pits (STPs) within a 61 X 183 m (200 X 600 ft) area. The STPs were placed at 15.24 X 15.24 m (50 X 50 ft) intervals and were excavated according to natural stratigraphy. All soils were screened through hardware cloth. Artifacts recovered at the site were either surface collected or located in Stratum I, which was identified as plowzone. Artifacts were also identified on the ground surface north and west of the site boundaries. Those artifacts were not included within the site since they were located outside the project area and were part of a previously tested area.

Among the 50 artifacts recovered were 1 undecorated pearlware sherd, 1 undecorated whiteware sherd, 1 porcelain sherd, 1 ironstone sherd, 3 salt-glazed stoneware sherds, 1 engine-turned stoneware, 1 black-glazed redware sherd, olive container glass, 2 manganese-tinted container glass fragments and kaolin pipestems. The material recovery appeared to be confined to an upper disturbed plowzone layer. No intact cultural features were found in the site area. After examining the data, the site was classified as an artifact scatter connected with a 19th century domestic occupation. The site was recommended for Phase II testing, which was carried out immediately.

Following the Phase I survey, Site 18BA526 was found to be located in very close proximity to a previously identified historic site, Site 18BA517 (see synopsis report). Due to their relative location to each other, there is potential that Sites 18BA517 and 18BA526 are related. Site 18BA517 was identified in 2004 during a Phase I survey for the Windlass Run Sanitary Sewer Extension. Work at the site eventually progressed to a Phase II level of research during the summer of 2004. The site was found to represent a domestic residential occupation extending from the mid 19th to the mid 20th century. With the exception of a cellar foundation, no vertical integrity was evident and horizontal activity patterns appear to have been mixed by modern plowing. The site was determined ineligible for listing on the NRHP.

Phase II work in 2005 at 18BA526 made use of the grid system created during the prior Phase I survey. The system was further expanded to conduct more precise testing. The Phase II grid was composed of shovel tests spaced apart at 15.24 m, 7.62 m, and 3.81 m (50, 25, and 12.5 ft) intervals. All shovel test locations were excavated manually, using spade shovels and trowels. The STPs were also excavated stratigraphically in order to maintain vertical control over the artifacts recovered and soils were screened through hardware cloth. A soil profile was prepared for each shovel test location excavated. Soils were described by texture and color and data was recorded on standardized forms. A total of 193 shovel tests were excavated.

The material recovery resulting from the STP work was plotted on a field map in order to display the distribution of artifacts. The artifacts were found to be fairly evenly distributed over the site area with a rather wide dispersal of materials. However, a concentration of artifacts was identified in the western portion of the site area. After examining the nature and distribution of the artifacts, six 91 X 91 cm (3 X 3 ft) test units were excavated. Four of the units were placed in the western half of the site. The other two were situated in the eastern half. Test units were excavated manually, using flat shovels and trowels. These units were also excavated stratigraphically in order to maintain control over the vertical provenience of artifacts recovered. Selected strata in excess of 7.62 cm (3 in) were further excavated by arbitrary levels. All excavated, non-feature soils were dry-screened in the field using hardware mesh. A standardized form was also used to record soil characteristics, stratum depths, and recovered materials. A scaled profile of one wall was drawn for each unit and the profile was also recorded using black and white photography.

One hundred twenty-one shovel tests and all six test units produced positive artifact recoveries. A total of 2,417 artifacts were recovered. By quantity, the recovery consisted of the following: 2 prehistoric artifacts, 2,324 historic artifacts, and 91 modern objects. The two prehistoric materials were quartz and chert debitage, both of which were identified within disturbed modern plowzone. The 91 modern materials are included in the tally above as "Miscellaneous objects".

The historic collection was composed of several functional artifact groups. The assemblage consisted of 1 activity item (a piece of hardware), 1,795 architectural artifacts, 1 clothing item (a brass button), 561 kitchen related artifacts, 1 kaolin pipe stem fragment, and 57 miscellaneous artifacts (unidentifiable iron and slag fragments, 8 pieces of coal, 14 fragments of charcoal, and six clinkers). The architectural assemblage included 170 brick fragments, 1,601 window glass fragments, 1 machine-cut nail, and 23 other nails. Kitchen-related artifacts were 234 ceramic sherds (9 unglazed earthenware, 1 Jackfield, 2 creamware, 6 late pearlware, 42 decorated whiteware, 77 undecorated whiteware, 3 Rockingham, 2 yellowware, 30 miscellaneous stoneware, and 62 other sherds), 320 pieces of container glass, and 7 faunal remains (2 animal bones and 3 oyster shells).



Phase II and Phase III Archeological Database and Inventory

Site Number:	18BA526	Site Name:	AVW/ Area 2/Site 3	Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other name(s)		Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brief Description:	Late 19th century artifact concentration			Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Phase II data suggest a small, but long-term domestic occupation at the site. This view was supported by the extensive recovery of domestic and architecture-related materials. The residence was likely occupied between 1840 and 1914, based on the presence of creamware, Rockingham, Jackfield, Bristol/Albany Slip stonewares, and manganese-tinted glass. Those occupying the site were likely farmers who have been connected with the Vanness and/or Howell families. The artifact recovery was confined to organic strata overlying subsoil. These strata were classified as exposed and buried plowzones.

No intact masonry or other architectural features were identified during Phase II work at 18BA526. However the presence of so much domestic and architectural material suggests that substantial residence was once present. It was thought likely that the site represents an extension of nearby site 18BA517 where a possible structure was encountered. Based on the quantity and nature of the artifacts, the residence was thought to have been occupied for several generations. The nature of the ceramic assemblage suggests that site occupants were middle income planters. The research potential of this site is dramatically reduced by the lack of soils with good stratigraphic integrity and apparent displacement of the artifacts recovered. If this was the yard of a residence at 18BA517, plowing over the century that followed site abandonment obliterated the potential of 18BA526 to provide significant information related to the occupants of the Vanness/Howell farmstead.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97002573, Site Files